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10/826,046	04/16/2004	Steven S. Homer	200315743-1	9457

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EXAMINER

PAPE, ZACHARY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2835

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/826,046

Applicant(s)

HOMER, STEVEN S.

Examiner

Zachary M. Pape

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29, 31, 32 and 34-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 30 and 33 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 4/16/2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The following detailed action is in response to the correspondence filed 3/27/2006.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 11-13, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shin et al. (US 2002/0151328).

With respect to claim 1, Shin et al. teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a bezel (55) having a bezel flange (57) adapted to support a screen (38); and an antenna (40) disposed at least partially between the bezel flange and a portion of the screen (See Paragraph 64, where when the flange (57) surrounds the screen member, it will effectively place the antenna between the itself and the screen member). Additionally, with respect to the recitation, “bezel flange adapted to support a screen member”, it has been held that the recitation that an element is “adapted to” perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform, and is therefore given little patentable weight. In re Hutchison, 69 USPQ 138.

With respect to claim 3, Shin et al. further teaches that a display device (Behind screen 38) is disposed adjacent an interior surface of the screen (As illustrated in Fig 2).

With respect to claim 5, Shin et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises a pattern portion (43, as illustrated in Fig 3).

With respect to claim 6, Shin et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises an extension portion (From 48a, to 49a) extending from the pattern portion to a screen connector (As illustrated in Fig 3).

With respect to claim 7, Shin et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises an extension portion (As illustrated in Fig 5 by the dashed lines) extending to at least two side areas of the screen member (See also paragraph 60).

With respect to claim 8, Shin et al. teaches a screen connector (48a) adapted to conductively couple the antenna (40) to an internal antenna circuit of the portable computer system.

With respect to claim 11, Shin et al. further teaches a portable computer system, comprising: means (50, 55) for supporting a screen (38, See paragraph 64); and antenna means (40) disposed at least partially between a flange (57) of the supporting means and an interior surface of the screen (See paragraph 64).

With respect to claim 12, Shin et al. further teaches a means (48a) for conductively coupling the antenna means (40) to an internal antenna circuit (43) of the portable computer system.

With respect to claim 13, Shin et al. further teaches means (47, 52a, and 54) for conductively coupling the antenna means (40) to the supporting means (50, 55, Since the antenna means (40) is conductively coupled to the side of the screen member (via 47) and the screen member is conductively coupled to the means (50, 55) for

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supporting the display, the antenna means is conductively coupled to the supporting means).

With respect to claim 15, Shin et al. further teaches a display means (Behind screen 38) disposed adjacent the interior surface of the screen member (As illustrated in Fig 2).

**Claims 1 (alternatively), 9, 22-27, 29, 31, 33-34 and 35-40 (alternatively) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brooks et al. (US 5,048,118).**

With respect to claim 1, Brooks et al. teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a bezel (30, 30') having a bezel flange (The portion of the bezel extending from under the screen (50) to the end, see present office action Fig 1 below) adapted to support a screen (50); and an antenna (30, 30') disposed at least partially between the bezel flange and a portion of the screen (See POA fig 1 below).

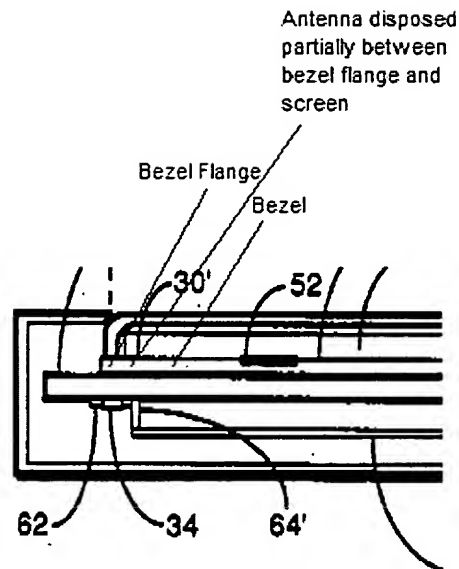


Fig 1

With respect to claim 22, Brooks et al. further teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a screen (50), a display device (40) disposed adjacent an interior surface of the screen, and an antenna (30, 30', 60') disposed on the interior surface of the screen (See Fig 4).

With respect to claim 23, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises a pattern portion (See Figs 1-4)

With respect to claim 24, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises an extended portion extending from the pattern portion to a screen member connector (52, See Figs 1, and 4).

With respect to claim 25, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna (30, 30', 60') is conductively coupled to an internal antenna circuit of the portable computer system (Column 1, Lines 40-47).

With respect to claims 9 and 26, Brooks et al. further teaches a bezel (30, 30') adapted to conductively couple the antenna to an internal antenna circuit of the portable computer system (Since the antenna and bezel of Brooks et al. are one and the same the bezel is adapted to conductively couple the antenna to an internal antenna circuit).

With respect to claims 27 and 34, Brooks et al. further teaches the use of a bezel (30, 30') having a flange (That which extends between 52 and the area where the lens (50) meets the bezel as illustrated in Fig 4) disposed between the screen and the display device (See Fig 4).

With respect to claim 29, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna (30, 30') extends a predetermined distance along an interior surface of the screen (See Fig 4).

With respect to claim 31, Brooks et al. further teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a bezel flange (That which extends from 52 to under the screen (50) as illustrated in Fig 4) adapted to support a screen (50), the bezel flange having a conductive path (Inherent in the antenna of Brooks et al.) extending therethrough to conductively couple an antenna to an antenna circuit (The signal is received by the antenna/bezel and then conducted through the antenna and into the antenna circuit within the system).

With respect to claim 35, Brooks et al. teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a screen (50); and an antenna (30, 30', and 60) formed on the screen (As illustrated in Fig 4).

With respect to claims 36-39, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises at least one conductive trace (The antenna 60', 30, 30' all act as a conductive trace) deposited/applied to a surface of the screen (See Fig 4).

With respect to claim 40, Brooks et al. further teaches that the screen comprises a transparent screen (Column 2, Lines 43-45).

**Claims 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asano et al. (US 2002/0021250).**

With respect to claim 35, Asano et al. teaches a portable computer system, comprising: a screen (13); and an antenna (20) formed on the screen (As illustrated in Fig 16).

With respect to claims 36-39, Asano et al. further teaches that the antenna comprises at least one conductive trace (20b) deposited/applied to a (an interior) surface of the screen (as illustrated in Fig 16).

With respect to claim 40, Asano et al. further teaches that the screen comprises a transparent screen (Since the screen of Asano et al. is for displaying data, graphics, etc, it must inherently be transparent).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are



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such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2, 4, 14, 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin et al. in view of Brooks et al. (US 5,048,118).

With respect to claims 2 and 14, Shin et al. teaches the limitation of claim 1 above, but fails to teach that the antenna (40) comprises a conductive trace deposited on an interior surface of the screen (38). Brooks et al. teaches placing a conductive trace (30, 30') on an interior surface of a screen member (50). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Brooks et al. with that of Shin et al. to provide additional area by which the antenna can receive a signal.

With respect to claim 4, Brooks et al. further teaches that the antenna (30, 30') extends a predetermined distance along an interior surface of the screen (See Fig

With respect to method claims 16-20, the method steps recited in the claims are inherently necessitated by the device structure as taught by the Shin et al. and Brooks et al. references.

**Claims 10, 21, 28 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brooks et al. in view of Chen (US 6,809,689).**

With respect to claims 10, 21, 28, and 32, Brooks et al. teaches the limitations of claims 1, 21, 22, and 31, above but fails to teach the use of a conductive via. Chen teaches the conventionality of using a conductive via (13, 14) to electrically couple an antenna to the internal circuitry thereof. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a conductive via to provide a signal from one side of the antenna substrate to the other and thus providing a stronger signal to the internal circuitry of the antenna through the connector (15).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 30 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

4. With respect to claim 30, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in dependent claim 30 and at least in part because said claim 30 recites, "a bezel flange disposed between the screen and the display device, the antenna disposed between the bezel flange and the interior surface of the screen".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 22 and 30 are believed to render said claim 30 patentable over the art of record.

With respect to claim 33, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in dependent claim 33 and at least in part because said claim 33 recites, "a connector configured to conductively couple the antenna to a via formed in the bezel flange".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claims 31 and 33 are believed to render said claim 33 patentable over the art of record

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments, see Pages 9-11, filed 3/27/2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 16, 31, and 22 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Brooks et al.

6. Applicant's arguments, see page 7 filed 3/27/2006, with respect to claims 1, 9 and 31 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of said claims has been withdrawn.

7. Applicant's arguments filed 3/27/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With respect to the remarks to claims 1, and 11 that, "Shin does not disclose or even suggest, "an antenna disposed at least partially between the bezel flange and a portion of the screen" the Examiner respectfully disagrees. As illustrated in Figs 2 and 5 the bezel flange (57), when in the assembled form (See Fig 5) covers the outside of the side wall (52) which are then both located to the right of the antenna (40). Since the antenna, as disclosed by Shin, is attached to the display (35) directly and the display is placed within bottom panel (51) the antenna is then located between the screen (38 or any surface thereof) and the bezel flange (57).

With respect to the remarks to claim 1 that the bezel flange is not, "adapted to support a screen", the Examiner respectfully disagrees. As noted in the present office action the term "adapted to" only requires that the structure have the ability to perform

such a function (See: In re Hutchison, 69 USPQ 138.). The Examiner respectfully asserts that the “bezel flange” has the capability, and as taught by Shin et al. is performing the function of supporting a screen (38) for at least the reason that the bezel flange (57) prevents the screen from moving horizontally within the casing (50).

With respect to the remarks to claim 35 that, “the antenna 20 appears to be attached to the stay 21 of Asano, and then the stay 21 of Asano is attached to the display unit 13 of Asano” the Examiner respectfully requests that the Applicant provide evidence that the antenna attachment configuration of Fig 16 is of the same attachment configuration as that of Fig 5 as asserted by the Applicant. The Examiner notes the paragraphs cited by the Applicant with respect to Asano, but the Examiner respectfully notes that they make no reference to the attachment configuration of both Fig 5 and 16. Further the Examiner respectfully notes that the claims are broader than the presented arguments in that the present arguments attempt to add the limitation that the antenna be formed directly on the screen rather than merely forming the antenna on the screen indirectly.


### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri. (8:00am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ZMP

  
**LISA LEA-EDMONDS**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**